12/1/2023

Re: Response to Objection - Case No. 22-90273, Document 1344

United States Courts Southern District of Texas F!LED

DEC 11 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

Nathari Ochsner, Clerk of Court

I, Matthew Feast, am president of Value Chain Ventures and VCV Power Beta. Both entities had filed claims against ComputeNorth. I am responding to the objection for both entities. We believe that the objections should be overruled and that our claims should stand.

In regards to lost net income, Value Chain Ventures filed a claim of \$925,577.63 and VCV Power Beta filed a claim of \$1,722,231. Both of these claims involved miners that we paid considerable amounts of money in deposit in return for promised spots and turn-on dates for our equipment. Both entities were small businesses. Both businesses were destroyed due to broken promises by ComputeNorth. Investor relationships that we cultivated over years were lost. Not only did we lose the above mentioned net income, our equipment sat idle at ComputeNorth during which period the value dropped by more than 75% which is an additional \$3 million which was not even part of the claim.

We were informed by an insider that ComputeNorth was prioritizing specific large clients over Value Chain Ventures and VCV Power Beta. For this reason as well as generally misleading us, we believe that the 1 month limit of damages in the contract should be waived and that our claims should be paid in full.

The second claim category that was addressed in the objection dealt with miners purchased from ComputeNorth where we received a much cheaper, less efficient version. We purchased \$560,000 of mining equipment from ComputeNorth (see attached master order form). We purchased 100 BTC mining machines that were supposed to have 100TH each. We received them about a year late which cost us substantial profit. Additionally, when we received them, they had 20% less computing power which is equivalent to receiving 20% less units. For this reason, they owe us an additional \$112,000 which is 20% of \$560,000. In the objection, it was stated that the contract did not point out the efficiency of the mining equipment. That is not true. Below is a screenshot of the purchase order that was previously provided. It clearly says the 100 units of a model with 100 TH. We received 100 units of 80 TH. We do not know what ComputeNorth did with the other 20% of our purchase order.

	-	001				•	
Maria Grande de Cara	900	30 New Order	□ Renewal	Change Order			4
		36 8 3 4			4		
Quantity	Martin Colonia (Sec. 1986)	Model	and the contract of the second	Unit i	Efficiency (W/TH)		
100	i	HS100T (100TH	)	34		The second secon	
MEDICAL COVERAGE OF		\$0.061 / kWh (A	nticipated Daily	Rate: \$497,76)			*
	(revirus)	Premier @ \$4,00	)			**	1
GOLD TOTAL		2 Years, Custom	er option to ext	end an additional ye	ar.		
MANUEL COOK DO		\$0					

Lastly, the objection mentioned that because the Master Services Agreement was signed by VCV Power Mining Alpha, that it was unclear if Value Chain Ventures could make the claim. Value Chain Ventures was owner and manager of VCV Power Mining Alpha. For whatever reason, ComputeNorth used VALUE CHAIN VENTURES as the Customer name on all the order forms for the units operating under the Master Services Agreement that VCV Power Mining Alpha signed. I don't know why ComputeNorth used Value Chain Ventures as the customer name when VCV Power Mining Alpha signed the Master Services Agreement, but they did, and both ComputeNorth and ourselves used the these two names interchangeably throughout our relationship.

Kind regalse 22-90 273 Document 1365 Filed in TXSB on 12/11/23 Page 2 of 24

12/1/2023

Matthew Feast

President and Owner of VCV Power Mining Alpha President of Value Chain Ventures

President of VCV Power Mining Alpha

484-553-3389

Matt.feast@vcvdigital.com



#### Exhibit A - Order Form

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Kearney, NE USA (NE05 Data Center)

#### Equipment and Fees:

		001
HOODING J.		☑ New Order □ Renewal □ Change Order
(ទីសូវិស្វាច្រាវុធិស		
Quantity	The state of the s	Model Unit Efficiency (W/TH)
100		HS100T (100TH) 34
	(OSB)	\$0.061 / kWh (Anticipated Daily Rate: \$497.76)
For the property of the second	(Fax(mamil))	Premier @ \$4.00
(Bellemanikarin) *		2 Years. Customer option to extend an additional year.
Unities grand		\$0

#### Package Details:

	Basic	Select	Premier
<u>Convention</u>		0.00	er sich er er an gericht stadt sich
Equipment	Customer Provided	Customer Provided	Customer Provided
Equipment Managed	No	Yes	Yes
Rack Space	X	X	X
240V Power	X	X	X
Ambient Air Cooling	X	X	X
Redundant Internet Connectivity	X	X	X
Physical Security	X	X	; X
(the wind out of the state of t			
Basic Remote Hands	X	X	X
Advanced Remote Hands		X	X
SLA Level	Network & Power	Hashrate Performance	Hashrate Performance
VPN Access	X	manager of the site or common region of the proposed prints on the special control of	The common of the same of the
RMA Processing	The second secon	X	, X
Premiumitariores			
Miner Configuration	age and the control of the control o	X	X
Miner Monitoring		X	X
Alert Management and Proactive Response		X	X
Automated Rules-based Reboots		X	; X
Stock Firmware Upgrades		X	. X
Compute North Pool (U.Sbased pool)		Annual Control of Cont	X
Pool to Hash Performance Monitoring, Audit, Reconciliation		and the second s	X
Discounted Pool Fee		the state of the s	X
Performance Enhancing Firmware  Overclocking, Underclocking, Auto-tuning, Upgrades	in angle dans and analysis and a second	Annual Control of the	t to the term of the approximation of the second se
<ul> <li>Customer provided (subject to Compute North approval) or</li> </ul>	y see		<b>X</b>
Compute North provided (miner model limited)	)		b

#### Payment and Billing Terms:



Initial Setup Fee: Initial Setup Fee is due upon execution of this Order Form.

#### Monthly Fees:

- Last two months of Monthly Service and Package Fees are due upon execution of this Order Form (the "Initial Deposit"). Equipment installation will not begin until received.
- The Monthly Service Fees are payable based on the actual hashrate performance of the Equipment per miner type per location as a percentage of the anticipated monthly hashrate per miner type. Customer shall pay a minimum service fee monthly in advance equal to seventy percent (70%) of the Monthly Service Fees (the "Minimum Service Fee").
  - Hashrate performance adjustment: Shall be calculated as follows:

    Expected Monthly Service Fees x (100% (actual hashrate performance percentage by model type x Infrastructure and staffing adjustment factor of 60%)) = Hashrate Performance Adjustment
  - The Minimum Service Fee is nonrefundable. Any Monthly Service Fee owed in excess of the Minimum Service Fee based on the actual hashrate performance of the Equipment will be invoiced monthly in arrears and subject to the hashrate performance adjustment. Customer is not eligible for service credits under Section 6.5 of the Master Agreement or otherwise.
- Monthly Service Fees and Monthly Package Fees will be invoiced monthly beginning on the date of Installation and are due upon receipt of invoices submitted by Compute North. Late payments will incur interest at the lesser of 1.5% per month (18% annum) or the maximum amount allowed under applicable law.
- Pricing is subject to monthly automated ACH payments. Other payment methods may be subject to a service fee.

Ejjijigajāzampje	
Anticipated Daily Rate	\$4.00
Period (Days in the Month)	30
Number of Units	10
Expected Total Monthly Service Fees	\$1200.00
	x 70%
Monthly Minimum Service Fee	\$840.00

Eliling Example 96% in Elirate pariounal Expected Total Monthly Service Fees Hashrate Performance Adjustment (-2.4%)	\$1200.00 -\$28.80	Expected Total Monthly Service Fees Hashrate Performance Adjustment (3%)	\$1200.00 36.00
Actual Usage	\$1171.20	Actual Usage	\$1236.00
Prepaid Minimum Service Fee	-\$840.00	Prepaid Minimum Service Fee	-\$840.00
Balance Due	\$331.20	Balance Due	\$396.00

#### Acquired Hardware:

डिगुग्नित्वतीर्विष्ट्य	(១គេប៉េប៉ែ	तिसम्बद्धाः स्थापनाति । जन्मनिक्षा	iel prehemanna
HS100T (June Delivery)	100 \$5,60	00.00 Not included	d TBD

Customer acknowledges and agrees that Compute North is procuring the Acquired Hardware for and on behalf of Customer from one or more third-party suppliers and that Compute North is not responsible, and shall have no liability to Customer, for manufacturer delays, order cancellations, adjustments, variances or other fulfillment issues except as specifically set forth in this paragraph. If an order fulfillment issue arises, Compute North will make commercially reasonable efforts to work with Customer and the third-party supplier to resolve the issue and Compute North will refund to Customer any amounts refunded to it

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by the third-party supplier with respect thereto. If a third-party supplier cancels or otherwise fails to deliver Acquired Equipment. Compute North's sole and exclusive liability to Customer shall be to refund the fees paid by Customer to Compute North for such Acquired Equipment net of any amounts paid by Compute North with respect thereto that are not refunded by the third-party supplier. Compute North agrees to act in good faith in regard to Customer's intent to obtain access to financial products pertaining to Customer's assets hosted by Compute North.

#### Compute North Pool:

At Customer's request, Compute North will enroll and configure Customer in Compute North's Bitcoin mining pool, which operates on a Full-Pay-Per-Share (FPPS) basis. Customer's use of Compute North's mining pool is subject to, and constitutes Customer's acceptance of, the then-current terms of service posted at <a href="https://mining.luxor.tech/legal/tos">https://mining.luxor.tech/legal/tos</a>, as may be updated from time to time. Compute North shall be entitled to a fee equal to 1% of Customer's mining reward from its participation in Compute North's pool. Customer acknowledges and agrees that Compute North is providing Customer with access to its mining pool for Customer's convenience on an as-is basis and that Compute North does not make any warranties or quarantees, whether express or implied, regarding the availability or performance thereof.

#### Firmware:

Customer acknowledges and agrees that its use of alternate or non-standard firmware may be subject to third-party fees or other charges, which shall be Customer's sole responsibility. Customer acknowledges and agrees that Compute North's consent to Customer's use of alternate or non-standard firmware and its provision of services relating thereto is for Customer's convenience on an as-is basis, that Customer's use of alternate or non-standard firmware is at Customer's sole risk, and that Compute North does not make any warranties or guarantees, whether express or implied, with respect thereto.

Compute North agrees that, upon request of Customer, it shall execute an approved subordination agreement on commercially-reasonable terms whereby the lien granted in Section 7 of the Master Agreement in the Equipment and Acquired Hardware may be subordinated to a lien or other security interest that Customer may grant to an approved bona-fide arms-length third-party lender of Customer providing financing for such Equipment and Acquired Hardware.

#### Order Type:

□ For orders designated as "Renewal" or "Change Order": This Order Form replaces all then-existing order forms under the applicable Agreement between Compute North and Customer for the identified Equipment, with all other order forms remaining in full force and effect. The Previous Orders and Equipment List attached and appended hereto identifies the Equipment that remains subject to a prior order form as of the date of this Order Form.

☑ For orders designated as "New": This Addendum is and shall be in addition to all then-existing order forms under the applicable Agreement between Compute North and Customer, which order forms shall remain in full force and effect. The Previous Orders and Equipment List attached and appended hereto identifies the Equipment that remains subject to a prior order form as of the date of this Order Form.

Compute North LLC	Customer
By: Kristney flyjolina	Ву: -
Name: Kristyan Mjolsnes	Name: <u>Jerry Tang</u>
Its: VP of Marketing	Its: Manager, VCV

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#### **Previous Orders and Equipment List**

Esign O	. Equipment Type	· Quantity -	Fi.dll(y	
				· Live i mi distance

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	;	Chapter 11
	T WIND DOWN HOLDINGS, te North Holdings, Inc.), et al.,	Case No. 22-90273 (MI)
		(Jointly Administered)
5	Debtors. <sup>1</sup>	

## PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S OBJECTION TO CLAIMS ASSERTED BY VCV POWER BETA, LLC AND VALUE CHAIN VENTURES

This is an objection to your claims. The objecting party is asking the Court to disallow the claims that you filed in this bankruptcy case. If you do not file a response within 30 days after this objection was served on you, your claims may be disallowed without a hearing. Represented parties should act through their attorney.

If you object to the relief requested, you must respond in writing. Unless otherwise directed by the Court, you must file your response electronically at <a href="https://ecf.txsb.uscourts.gov/">https://ecf.txsb.uscourts.gov/</a> within thirty days from the date this objection was filed. If you do not have electronic filing privileges, you must file a written response that is actually received by the clerk within thirty days from the date this objection was filed. Otherwise, the Court may treat the objection as unopposed and sustain the relief requested.

On September 28, 2023, the Court entered the Final Decree Closing Certain Cases and Amending Caption of Remaining Cases [Docket No. 1287], closing the chapter 11 cases of the following sixteen entities; Mining Project Wind Down Atoka LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down BS LLC (f/k/a CN Big Spring LLC) (4397); Mining Project Wind Down Colorado Bend LLC (f/k/a CN Colorado Bend LLC) (4610); Mining Project Wind Down Developments LLC (f/k/a CN Developments LLC) (2570); Mining Project Wind Down Equipment LLC (f/k/a CN Equipment LLC) (6885); Mining Project Wind Down King Mountain LLC (f/k/a CN King Mountain LLC) (7190); Mining Project Wind Down MDN LLC (f/k/a CN Minden LLC) (37/22); Mining Project Wind Down Mining LLC (f/k/a CN Mining LLC) (5223); Mining Project Wind Down Pledgor LLC (f/k/a CN Pledgor LLC) (9871); Mining Project Wind Down Member LLC (f/k/a Compute North Member LLC) (8639); Mining Project Wind Down NC08 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NC08 LLC) (8069); Mining Project Wind Down NY09 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NY09 LLC) (5453); Mining Project Wind Down STHDAK LLC (f/k/a Compute North SD, LLC) (1501); Mining Project Wind Down Texas LLC (f/k/a Compute North Texas LLC) (1883); Mining Project Wind Down TX06 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX06 LLC) (5921); and Mining Project Wind Down TX10 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX10 LLC) (4238). The chapter 11 cases of the remaining three Reorganized Debtors: Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.) (4534); Mining Project Wind Down LLC (f/k/a Compute North LLC) (7185); and Mining Project Wind Down Corpus Christi LLC (f/k/a CN Corpus Christi LLC) (5551), shall remain open and jointly administered under the above caption. The Reorganized Debtors' service address for the purposes of these chapter 11 cases is 2305A Elmen Street, Houston, TX 77019.

A hearing will be conducted on this matter on December 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (prevailing Central Time) in Courtroom 404, 4th floor, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77002. You may participate in the hearing either in person or by an audio and video connection.

Audio communication will be by use of the Court's dial-in facility. You may access the facility at 832-917-1510. Once connected, you will be asked to enter the conference room number. Judge Isgur's conference room number is 954554.

Video communication will be by use of the GoToMeeting platform. Connect via the free GoToMeeting application or click the link on Judge Isgur's home page at <a href="https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/content/united-states-bankruptcy-judge-marvin-isgur">https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/content/united-states-bankruptcy-judge-marvin-isgur</a>. The meeting code is "JudgeIsgur". Click the settings icon in the upper right corner and

enter your name under the personal information setting. Hearing appearances must be made electronically in advance of both electronic and in-person hearings. To make your appearance, click the "Electronic Appearance" link on Judge Isgur's home page. Select the case name, complete the required fields and click "Submit" to complete your appearance.

Tribolet Advisors, LLC, in its capacity as Plan Administrator ("<u>Plan Administrator</u>") in the above-captioned bankruptcy cases (the "<u>Bankruptcy Cases</u>"), hereby files this *Objection to Claims Asserted by VCV Power Beta, LLC and Value Chain Ventures* (the "<u>Objection</u>"), and respectfully states as follows in support thereof:

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). The Plan Administrator confirms its consent, pursuant to Rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), to the entry of a final order by the Court. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

#### BACKGROUND

#### A. Case Background

2. On September 22, 2022 (the "Petition Date"), each of the above-captioned debtors (the "Debtors" and, as of the effective date of the Plan, the "Reorganized Debtors") commenced a

chapter 11 case by filing a voluntary petition for relief in this Court under title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

- 3. On February 16, 2023, the Court entered an order confirming the *Third Amended Joint Liquidating Chapter 11 Plan of Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.) and Its Debtor Affiliates* (the "Confirmation Order" and "Plan", respectively).<sup>2</sup>
  - 4. The effective date of the Plan (the "Effective Date") occurred on March 31, 2023.<sup>3</sup>
- 5. The Plan Administrator is governed by the Amended Plan Administrator Agreement (the "Plan Administrator Agreement"). Pursuant to the Plan, Confirmation Order, and Plan Administrator Agreement, the Plan Administrator is tasked with, among other things: (1) serving as the sole manager, director, and officer of the Reorganized Debtors as of the Effective Date; (2) implementing the Plan and any applicable orders of the Court; and (3) reconciling and resolving claims asserted against the Reorganized Debtors' estates. 5
- 6. The Plan Administrator, its counsel, professional advisors and consultants, including but not limited to Grant Thornton LLP ("Grant Thornton" and collectively, the "Reviewing Parties") are diligently reviewing the claims filed in the Bankruptcy Cases, including the Proof of Claim filed by Claimant, the claims register, the Debtors' books and records, and the supporting documentation provided by the Claimant, if any.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Docket No. 1019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Docket No. 1082.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Exhibit E to Docket No. 1079.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Plan §§ 4.2.5, 7.3; Confirmation Order ¶¶ 53, 88; Plan Administrator Agreement § 1.3.

#### B. The Proofs of Claim

- 7. On November 23, 2022, VCV Power Beta, LLC ("<u>Power Beta</u>") filed proof of claim number 10127 (the "<u>Power Beta Claim</u>"), asserting a general unsecured claim in the amount of \$1,722,230.82 for purported lost net income arising from alleged delays under a Master Agreement.
- 8. On November 23, 2022, Value Chain Ventures filed proof of claim number 10150 (the "Ventures Lost Profits Claim"), asserting a general unsecured claim in the amount of \$925,577.63 for purported lost net income arising from alleged delays under a Master Agreement Order Form.
- 9. On November 23, 2022, Value Chain Ventures filed proof of claim number 10123 (the "Ventures Deposit Claim"), asserting a general unsecured claim in the amount of \$112,000.00 for partial reimbursement of a deposit.
  - 10. On information and belief, Power Beta and Value Chain Ventures are affiliates.

#### **ARGUMENT**

#### A. Statutory Basis and Burden of Proof

- 11. Section 502(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that "[a] claim or interest, proof of which is filed under section 501 of this title is deemed allowed, unless a party in interest... objects." 11 U.S.C. § 502(a). Section 502(b) provides that a court "shall determine the amount of such claim... as of the date of the filing of the petition, and shall allow such claim in such amount, except to the extent that (1) such claim is unenforceable against the debtor and the property of the debtor..." 11 U.S.C. § 502(b)(1).
- 12. Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f) states that "[a] proof of claim executed and filed in accordance with these rules shall constitute *prima facie* evidence of the validity and amount of the claim." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3001(f). However, a proof of claim loses the presumption of *prima*

facie validity under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f) if an objecting party refutes at least one of the allegations that is essential to the claim's legal sufficiency. See In re Fidelity Holding Co., Ltd., 837 F.2d 696, 698 (5th Cir. 1988). When such an allegation is refuted, the burden reverts to the claimant to prove the validity of its claim by a preponderance of evidence. Id. "The ultimate burden of proof always lies with the claimant." In re Armstrong, 347 B.R. 581, 583 (Bankr. N.D. Tex. 2006) (citing Raleigh v. Ill. Dep't of Revenue, 530 U.S. 15 (2000)).

- B. Power Beta is Contractually Barred from Recovering Consequential Damages, Including Lost Profits, Under the Applicable Limitation of Liability Clause
- 13. The Power Beta Claim alleges that Power Beta suffered a loss of income as a result of delays in the amount of \$1,722,231. However, consequential damages such as lost profits are expressly barred under the parties' Master Agreement. Section 14 of the Master Agreement contains a limitation of liability clause (the "Limitation of Liability Clause") which states in pertinent part:
  - 14.1 Customer understands and acknowledges that, in certain situations, Services and Equipment functionality may be unavailable due to factors outside of Compute North's control. This includes, but is not limited to force majeure, weather, network failures, pool operator failures, denial of service attacks, currency network outages, hacking or malicious attacks on the crypto networks or exchanges, power outages, or Acts of God. COMPUTE NORTH SHALL HAVE NO OBLIGATION, RESPONSIBILITY, OR LIABILITY FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: (A) ANY INTERRUPTION OR DEFECTS IN THE EQUIPMENT FUNCTIONALITY CAUSED BY FACTORS OUTSIDE OF COMPUTE NORTH'S REASONABLE CONTROL; (B) ANY LOSS, DELETION, OR CORRUPTION OF CUSTOMER'S DATA OR FILES WHATSOEVER; (C) ANY LOST REVENUE TO CUSTOMER DURING OUTAGES, EQUIPMENT FAILURES, ETC.; (D) DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ANY ACTIONS OR INACTIONS OF CUSTOMER OR ANY THIRD PARTY NOT UNDER COMPUTE NORTH'S CONTROL; OR (E) DAMAGES RESULTING FROM EQUIPMENT OR ANY THIRD PARTY EQUIPMENT.
  - 14.2 IN NO EVENT SHALL COMPUTE NORTH BE LIABLE TO CUSTOMER OR ANY OTHER PERSON, FIRM, OR ENTITY IN ANY RESPECT, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, FOR ANY INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES,

INCLUDING LOSS OF PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER. ARISING OUT OF MISTAKES. NEGLIGENCE, ACCIDENTS, ERRORS, OMISSIONS, INTERRUPTIONS, OR DEFECTS IN TRANSMISSION, OR DELAYS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THOSE THAT MAY BE CAUSED BY REGULATORY OR JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE OBLIGATIONS OF COMPUTE NORTH PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT. COMPUTE NORTH'S TOTAL CUMULATIVE LIABILITY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, WHETHER UNDER CONTRACT LAW, TORT LAW, WARRANTY, OR OTHERWISE, SHALL BE LIMITED TO DIRECT DAMAGES NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNTS ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY COMPUTE NORTH FROM CUSTOMER IN THE TWELVE (12) MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE EVENT GIVING RISE TO THE CLAIM.

- 14.3. <u>Remedy</u>. Customer's sole remedy for Compute North's non-performance of its obligations under this Agreement shall be a refund of any fees paid to Compute North for the then-current service month. Unless applicable law requires a longer period, any action against Compute North in connection with this Agreement must be commenced within one (1) year after the cause of the action has accrued.
- 14. Section 16.6 of the Master Agreement provides that Minnesota law governs interpretation of the Master Agreement. Under Minnesota law, consequential damages exclusions in contracts are both valid and enforceable. *Transport Corp. of America, Inc. v. International Business Machines Corporation, Inc.*, 30 F.3d 953, 960 (8th Cir. 1994) ("An exclusion of consequential damages set forth in advance in a commercial agreement between experienced business parties represents a bargained-for allocation of risk that is conscionable as a matter of law."); Far East Aluminum Works Co. Ltd. v. Viracon, Inc., 27 F.4th 1361, 1366 (8th Cir. 2022) (citing Int'l Fin. Servs., Inc. v. Franz, 534 N.W.2d 261, 268-69 (Minn. 1995)) ("When 'two merchants of relatively equal bargaining power' agree to 'allocate the risk of loss' in a contract, it is not the court's job to shift the risk elsewhere."); Spectro Alloys Corp. v. Fire Brick Engineers Co., Inc., 52 F. Supp. 3d 918, 932 (D. Minn. 2014) (enforcing a consequential damages clause to exclude damages for lost profits under contract whose predominant purpose was for services).

- 15. Section 16.5 of the Master Agreement also protects the parties from liability for unforeseeable circumstances beyond their control, including liability "for delay, failure in performance, loss or damage due to any of the following force majeure conditions: . . . inability to secure replacement parts or materials, transportation facilities, or other causes beyond its reasonable control, whether or not similar to the foregoing."
- 16. The Master Agreement states that Power Beta's remedy is limited to a refund of fees paid to Compute North for the applicable service month. However, Power Beta concedes that it already received a refund of its hosting deposit.
- Beta is barred from recovering consequential damages such as lost profits, as well as incidental and other indirect damages, and its claim should be disallowed.

#### C. The Ventures Lost Profits Claim Lacks Sufficient Documentation

- 18. The Ventures Lost Profits Claim is not supported by sufficient documentation such that Plaintiff is unable to determine its validity without additional support.
- 19. Similar to the Power Beta Claim, the Ventures Lost Profits Claim asserts damages for lost income. However, Value Chain Ventures fails to provide the relevant contract from which it can be determined if Value Chain Ventures, like Power Beta, agreed to exclude consequential and lost profit damages as a form of remedy. The agreement attached to the Ventures Lost Profits Claim incorporates by reference a "Master Services Agreement dated as of January 29, 2021" which is not attached to the Ventures Claim. Absent a copy of the relevant agreements, Plaintiff cannot determine the validity of the Ventures Lost Profits Claim.
- 20. Additionally, while the Ventures Lost Profits Claim is filed by Value Chain Ventures, the agreement attached to the Ventures Lost Profits Claim, a "Master Services Agreement Order #2," is signed on behalf of "VCV Power Mining Alpha LLC" rather than Value

Chain Ventures. It is therefore unclear if Value Chain Ventures is entitled to assert the Ventures Lost Profits Claim.

#### D. The Ventures Deposit Claim

21. It is unclear from the Ventures Deposit Claim whether Value Chain Ventures is entitled to a partial reimbursement of its deposit. Value Chain Ventures asserts that it received only 8,000 of 10,000 TH that it ordered. However, the Order Form describes the equipment in a quantity of 100. It is not clear from the Ventures Deposit Claim whether Value Chain Ventures actually received 100 units. To the extent the Debtors failed to deliver all 100 units, the Order Form absolves the Debtors from liability for failure to deliver equipment that the Debtors paid a third-party supplier to provide. Finally, Value Chain Ventures designated its claim as "unliquidated," leaving it unclear what amount Value Chain Ventures believes it is entitled. Absent more information or the opportunity for discovery, the Plan Administrator cannot determine if Value Chain Ventures is entitled to the Ventures Deposit Claim.

#### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

22. This Objection is limited to the grounds stated herein. The Plan Administrator expressly reserves the right to amend, modify, and supplement this Objection, and the right to respond to any assertion regarding the Claim. The Plan Administrator further reserves all rights to present any evidence at a designated hearing for this proceeding to support its Objection and to disprove any future assertions that may be brought by Claimant. The Plan Administrator reserves the right to contest the Proof of Claim and any other claims asserted by Claimant on any other grounds. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission as to the amount, priority, or validity of any claims asserted by Claimant.

#### CONCLUSION

- 23. The Plan Administrator respectfully requests as follows:
  - a. that the Power Beta Claim be disallowed and expunged in its entirety;
  - b. that the Ventures Lost Profits Claim be disallowed and expunged in its entirety, or in the alternative, that Value Chain Ventures supplement the Ventures Claim with supporting contractual documentation;
  - c. that the Ventures Deposit Claim be disallowed and expunged in its entirety; and
  - d. that the Court grant such other and further relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: November 2, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nicholas C. Brown

Kara E. Casteel (admitted pro hac vice)

MN State Bar No. 0389115

Nicholas C. Brown (admitted pro hac vice)

NC State Bar No. 38054

ASK LLP

2600 Eagan Woods Drive, Suite 400

St. Paul, MN 55121

Telephone:

(651) 289-3846

E-mail:

kcasteel@askllp.com

nbrown@askllp.com

Counsel to the Plan Administrator

### Exhibit 1

**Tribolet Declaration** 

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

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TII	ĮU,

Chapter 11

MINING PROJECT WIND DOWN HOLDINGS, INC. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.), et al.,

Case No. 22-90273 (MI)

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors. 1

# DECLARATION OF MICHAEL TRIBOLET, MANAGING MEMBER OF TRIBOLET ADVISORS LLC, IN SUPPORT OF THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S OBJECTION TO CLAIMS ASSERTED BY VCV POWER BETA, LLC AND VALUE CHAIN VENTURES

I, Michael Tribolet, hereby declare under penalty of perjury:

- 1. I am the Managing Member of Tribolet Advisors, LLC, the court-appointed plan administrator (the "Plan Administrator") in the above-captioned cases.
- 2. In my capacity as Plan Administrator, I am the main person responsible for winding down, dissolving, and liquidating the Debtors' estates. These responsibilities include managing

On September 28, 2023, the Court entered the Final Decree Closing Certain Cases and Amending Caption of Remaining Cases [Docket No. 1287], closing the chapter 11 cases of the following sixteen entities; Mining Project Wind Down Atoka LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down BS LLC (f/k/a CN Big Spring LLC) (4397); Mining Project Wind Down Colorado Bend LLC (f/k/a CN Colorado Bend LLC) (4610); Mining Project Wind Down Developments LLC (f/k/a CN Developments LLC) (2570); Mining Project Wind Down Equipment LLC (f/k/a CN Equipment LLC) (6885); Mining Project Wind Down King Mountain LLC (f/k/a CN King Mountain LLC) (7190); Mining Project Wind Down MDN LLC (f/k/a CN Minden LLC) (3722); Mining Project Wind Down Mining LLC (f/k/a CN Mining LLC) (5223); Mining Project Wind Down Pledgor LLC (f/k/a CN Pledgor LLC) (9871); Mining Project Wind Down Member LLC (f/k/a Compute North Member LLC) (8639); Mining Project Wind Down NC08 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NC08 LLC) (8069); Mining Project Wind Down NY09 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NY09 LLC) (5453); Mining Project Wind Down STHDAK LLC (f/k/a Compute North SD, LLC) (1501); Mining Project Wind Down Texas LLC (f/k/a Compute North Texas LLC) (1883); Mining Project Wind Down TX06 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX06 LLC) (5921); and Mining Project Wind Down TX10 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX10 LLC) (4238). The chapter 11 cases of the remaining three Reorganized Debtors: Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Ihc.) (4534); Mining Project Wind Down LLC (f/k/a Compute North LLC) (7185); and Mining Project Wind Down Corpus Christi LLC (f/k/a CN Corpus Christi LLC) (5551), shall remain open and jointly administered under the above caption. The Reorganized Debtors' service address for the purposes of these chapter 11 cases is 2305A Elmen Street, Houston, TX 77019.

and overseeing the claims reconciliation and objection process, which involves the collective effort of myself; my counsel, including ASK LLP; my financial advisor, Grant Thornton LLP; and certain former employees of the Reorganized Debtors (collectively, the "Reviewing Parties"). In connection with my responsibilities, I am generally familiar with the Debtors' books and records that reflect, among other things, the Debtors' liabilities and the amount thereof owed to their creditors both as of and subsequent to the Petition Date.

- 3. I have read the Plan Administrator's Objection to Claims Asserted by VCV Power Beta, LLC and Value Chain Ventures (the "Objection").
- 4. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the assertions made in the Objection are accurate.
- 5. In evaluating proof of claim 10127 (the "Power Beta Claim") filed by claimant VCV Power Beta, LLC ("Power Beta"), I, in a collective effort with one or more of the Reviewing Parties under my supervision, thoroughly reviewed the Power Beta Claim, the claims register, and the supporting information provided by Power Beta. Based on this review, and upon consultation with the Reviewing Parties, I have determined that the information provided with the Power Beta Claim demonstrates that the Power Beta Claim seeks damages for alleged lost income resulting from delays on the part of the Debtors. However, the contract attached to the Power Beta Claim expressly excludes consequential damages, including lost profits. The Power Beta Claim also states that Power Beta received a refund of its deposit.
- 6. In evaluating proof of claim 10150 (the "<u>Ventures Lost Profits Claim</u>") filed by claimant Value Chain Ventures, I, in a collective effort with one or more of the Reviewing Parties under my supervision, thoroughly reviewed the Ventures Lost Profits Claim, the claims register, and the supporting information provided by Value Chain Ventures. Based on this review, and

upon consultation with the Reviewing Parties, I have determined that the information provided with the Ventures Lost Profits Claim is insufficient because the documents make reference to a Master Agreement which is not included with the Ventures Lost Profits Claim. Absent a review of the Master Agreement to determine if a limitation on liability clause is in effect, it is impossible to determine whether Value Chain Ventures is entitled to a claim. The documentation attached to the Ventures Lost Profits Claim also casts doubt on Value Chain Ventures' right to a claim because such documentation refers to a separate entity, VCV Power Alpha LLC, as the entity doing business with the Debtors.

7. In evaluating proof of claim 10123 (the "Ventures Deposit Claim" and, together with the Ventures Lost Profits Claim, the "Ventures Claims") filed by claimant Value Chain Ventures, I, in a collective effort with one or more of the Reviewing Parties under my supervision, thoroughly reviewed the Ventures Deposit Claim, the claims register, and the supporting information provided by Value Chain Ventures. Based on this review, and upon consultation with the Reviewing Parties, I have determined that the information provided with the Ventures Deposit Claim is insufficient because Value Chain Ventures fails to confirm what quantity of equipment units it received from the Debtors. Although Value Chain Ventures asserts that it received 8,000 of 10,000 TH (total hash), it is unclear whether Value Chain Ventures did in fact receive all 100 units ordered. To the extent the Debtors failed to deliver all 100 units, the Order Form absolves the Debtors from liability for failure to deliver equipment which the Debtors paid a third-party supplier to provide. Finally, Value Chain Ventures designates its claim as "unliquidated," leaving it unclear what amount Value Chain Ventures believes it is entitled. Based on the foregoing, and absent additional information, I cannot determine whether the Ventures Deposit Claim is valid.

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Based on the foregoing, and in consultation with the Reviewing Parties, I believe 8.

that the Power Beta Claim and Ventures Claims should be disallowed and expunged in their

entirety.

9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the facts set

forth in the foregoing declaration are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information,

and belief as of the date hereof.

Dated: November 2, 2023

/s/ Michael Tribolet

Michael Tribolet Managing Member

Tribolet Advisors LLC, solely in its

capacity as Plan Administrator

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#### Certificate of Service

I certify that on November 2, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas.

I further certify that on November 2, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by First Class Mail and electronic mail to claimants VCV Power Beta, LLC and Value Chain Ventures at the following addresses:

VCV Power Beta, LLC 1540 Broadway, Suite 1010 New York, NY 10036 matt.feast@vcvdigital.com Value Chain Ventures 1540 Broadway, Suite 1010 New York, NY 10036 matt.feast@vcvdigital.com

/s/ Nicholas C. Brown
Nicholas C. Brown

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

Chapter 11
Case No. 22-90273 (MI)
(Jointly Administered)

## ORDER SUSTAINING PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S OBJECTION TO CLAIMS <u>ASSERTED BY VCV POWER BETA, LLC AND VALUE CHAIN VENTURES</u> (Related Docket No. \_\_\_)

Upon the objection (the "Objection")<sup>2</sup> of Tribolet Advisors, LLC, as Plan Administrator ("Plan Administrator") in the above-captioned bankruptcy cases, seeking entry of an order (this "Order") sustaining the *Plan Administrator's Objection to Claims Asserted by VCV Power Beta, LLC and Value Chain Ventures*, as more fully set forth in the Objection; and this Court having found that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334 and that this Court may

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Objection.

enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Objection in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Objection is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Plan Administrator's notice of the Objection and opportunity for a hearing thereon were appropriate and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Objection and determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Objection establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon the Tribolet Declaration; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor; it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Any response to the Objection not otherwise withdrawn, resolved, or adjourned is hereby overruled on its merits.
- 2. Proof of claim number 10127 filed by VCV Power Beta, LLC is hereby disallowed and expunged in its entirety.
- 3. Proofs of claim numbers 10150 and 10123 filed by Value Chain Ventures are hereby disallowed and expunged in their entirety.
- 4. Epid Corporate Restructuring, LLC, as Claims, Noticing, Solicitation, and Administrative Agent, is authorized and directed to update the claims register maintained in the Bankruptcy Cases to reflect the relief granted in this Order.
- 5. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable

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law; (b) an allowance of any claim or a waiver of the Plan Administrator's or any other party in

interest's right to dispute or object to any claim on any other grounds, including the Proof of Claim;

(c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular

claim is of a type specified or defined in this Objection or any order granting the relief requested

by this Objection or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other

priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract,

or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission as to the validity,

priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on

property of the Debtors' estates; or (g) a waiver or limitation of the Plan Administrator's, or any

other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law.

6. The Plan Administrator is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate

the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Objection.

7. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or

related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Houston, Texas
Dated: , 2023

MARVIN ISGUR UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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